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'HERE WE ARE!' REPORTS FORD FROM FAR STRETCHES OF SIBERIA

All Countries of Pacific, He Says, Are Working Together to Get Tourists

By ALEXANDER HUME FORD. — BAIKAL, on Lake Baikal, Siberia, May 4.—Here we are, Joe and I, on the banks of Lake Baikal, in Central Siberia, editing the Mid-Pacific Magazine aboard the train. From our stateroom we can look out on the lake and at the same time keep right on with our work, editing the articles we have been collecting and gathering around the Pacific, and when we tire of this we turn to the table on which the typewriter rests and hammer off reams of correspondence to the great men of the Pacific that we have collected into promising articles for the magazine, and soon they will realize that there will be no rest for them until the articles are written and delivered in Honolulu.

Then, too, all around the ocean now are the "Hands-Around-the-Pacific" luncheon clubs, and on each of these the leading newspaper men of the community are high up in the directorate and they are waiting for news of the success of the movement elsewhere. Our speakers are beginning to pass now from one country to another. In Honolulu you got one of the first in Sir Newton Moore, who was practically the speaker at the birth of the "Millions Club" of Perth, West Australia, which is a branch of the "Hands-Around-the-Pacific" Club. You should soon be getting Joe Leiter, who is headed your way on his yacht, the Niagara. He was the first speaker of the "City Club" of Manila, which is another branch of the "Hands-Around-the-Pacific." He should be captured by the Ad Club for a talk.

For six days I have been dictating eight to 10 hours a day, and for another six days until we reach St. Petersburg I expect to be working just as hard, and perhaps then I will have my papers in such order that I can get out the report of the tourist bureaus of the Pacific that the Australian government intends publishing.

Perhaps what has surprised me most was the eagerness with which Japan came right into the movement. To have all the countries of the Pacific work together as a unit to attract travel to the big ocean, and entirely around the Pacific.

If I can have my way with the minister of communications in St. Petersburg there will be a daily mail from Shanghai to St. Petersburg and Moscow that will make the trip in 14 days, two days longer than the time made by the transiberian express from Peking, but at a cost of less than half as much. Think of going from Shanghai, China, to the center of Europe for the sum of \$100, including your berth for the entire distance. It is true you have to provide your own blankets and sheets, but after you are accustomed to this mode of travel, you will infinitely prefer it. It is the universal custom in Russia to provide your own blankets and sheets at the hotels; in fact, some hotels rent you merely the room, the bed and the mattress, so you had better have your bed clothing with you anyway.

Travel in Russia.
There is very little difference in Russia between the mail trains and the cars of the "wagon lits." The difference is in the cost of transportation and the desire of making the trip in one day less time. The first class cars have four berths, two upper and two lower and are just as comfortable. Often, if there are two of you, you may get one of these rooms to yourselves, but as there are never more than four in one of these staterooms, and as they extend entirely across the car, save for the narrow corridor on one side, and this is the broadest gauge railway in the world, you can see the room you have. The advantage of the mail train is the frequent stops, when you can get out and walk, or dine in the station buffet. You make the trip across from Vladivostok to St. Petersburg in less than 12 days anyway, against a day or two less by the express; but the real enjoyment is getting out and seeing something of the towns and the strange costumed nomads at the stations. This makes it worth while to go by the mail train.

I know that the Russian government is contemplating doing something with its regular daily mail service, to make it better known, and I shall try to get the minister of communications to establish a tourist bureau at Vladivostok that will co-operate with us, and we will distribute the literature of Siberia around the Pacific, as they will distribute ours in Russia and Europe, and this is most important, for I have gotten our trans-Pacific transportation people to see that by making use of the low rates on the local mail trains across Russia and Siberia and giving a combination rate across the Pacific by way of Japan and Hawaii, that many western Americans in Europe will be tempted to return to San Francisco by this route, instead of back by the old way across the Atlantic and the American continent.

I would not ask for more comfortable travel than I am now enjoying, although I believe that I would put a force of Japanese as janitors in charge of the cars, as the Japanese are extremely clean and the Russian laborer is quite the reverse. This is the chief point that I wish to emphasize with the minister of communications. Once a trained force of men, who know how to keep cars clean, is put at work across Siberia, the daily mail train will be fit for anyone in the world to travel by, either first or second class. In the third class there

Schofield Notes

[Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence]
FORT SHAFTER, June 9.—Mrs. Camp, the mother of Lt. T. J. Camp of the 2d Infantry, was a passenger for the states by the transport that sailed for San Francisco last Sunday morning. Mrs. Camp has been making her home with her son for the last several months and returns to the main land for a visit.

The 1st battalion is now finishing up its range firing for its recruits at known distances, slow and rapid fire, and will go at once to instruction practice, combat firing and will finish up with combat firing on the "B" range with squad and platoon problems, the most interesting of all target work. Company B, from present reports, seems to be the most successful of the four companies of the battalion in the results of qualifying the new men in individual work but the 500-yard rapid fire may upset calculations for all.

A number of officers of the 3rd battalion of the regiment that is now in the field on Judge Perry's place east of Fort Ruger, were in the post for over Sunday to visit their families or friends and meet other friends passing through on the transport. Captains Jamerson and Malone and Lieutenants Campanole and Calder were among the number that took this advantage of the cessation of field work for the battalion for Saturday night and Sunday.

Capt. Robert McCleave, 2d Infantry, spent Sunday at Schofield Barracks as the guest of his brother, Lieutenant McCleave of the 25th, and took in the great 10-inning game between the Coast Defense and 1st Infantry ball teams that took place that day.

C company has added to its already attractive company amusement room the latest model of an electrically operated player piano that has been found to be a most desirable addition and great source of pleasure. The

ways, and to work together before we move into the Pan-Pacific Pavilion to begin our eight months' publicity campaign to attract the American to Pacific lands, and to learn from each other the best methods of promotion and tourist work successfully practiced in each of the Pacific countries.

I have zig-zagged now about 10,000 miles back and forth across China, Manchuria, Korea, Japan and Siberia, calling on the men who could tell me anything about modern methods in promoting travel, and it is a most fortunate thing that I have dictated my daily diary to Joe, especially the conversations with those men who have tried many ways and have picked out the best. Some day I trust that this will all be of use to Hawaii.

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piano has been purchased by contributions on the part of the men paid in monthly installments of moderate sums and is the only feature of its kind to be found in any of the company amusement rooms in the regiment.

The program to be played by the 2d Infantry band on Wednesday evening at 6:30, in the air dome theater of the post, is as follows:
March, Pride of Victory Blandau
Overture, Nakire's Hochzeit Lincke
Solo for Clarinet

Sergeant Volta
Faise Espagnole Roche
Finale, Ragging the Nursery Rhymes Brown
Albert Jacobson, Chief Musician
Mrs. Calhoun, the wife of 1st Sergeant Calhoun of B company, who has been seriously ill for some time past, is now rapidly recovering and will, it is thought, be entirely restored to health in a short time.

German Floating Drydocks
The latest floating dry docks in Hamburg harbor show improvements in convenience and capacity over older installations. Not only is the size increasing, made necessary by the greater tonnage of the newer vessels, but the mechanical arrangements shorten the time required for docking

the great vessels, and lighten the labors of the men employed in that arduous occupation. These docks are of two designs, the "L" and the "U" types, as they are called, both of which have the decided advantage of permitting the docking of ships whose length greatly exceeds that of the dock. For instance, in a 280-foot dock, the Hamburg steamer Modesta was docked, the vessel projecting 30 feet fore and aft over the keel blocks, while in exceptional cases vessels 340 feet longer than the dock have been handled. The floating dry docks are built in two or more sections, to facilitate towing through canals when it is desired to bring them to other ports. So powerful are the pumps with which these floating docks are equipped that it is but a matter of 40 or 50 minutes after the vessel is secured in its place that the dock has lifted it out of water, in shape for overhauling.—Popular Mechanics.

J. M. Smalley, assistant general manager of the Rock Island railway, died in Topeka, following a stroke of paralysis.

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